

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CU-02 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SCA-01 /076 W
-----071002Z 094653 /21

R 061446Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 886
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 3695

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE YO
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE VISITS TO BELGRADE OF PRIVATE GROUPS DURING
CSCE MEETINGS.

REF: STATE 123794

1. WE SUSPECT GOY ALSO IS SEIZED WITH QUESTIONS RAISED PARA 4
REFTEL. ON THE ONE HAND, THE GOY IS KEENLY AWARE OF THE
WORLDWIDE ATTENTION TO BE FOCUSED ON BELGRADE AND THE CSCE
CONFERENCES. THEREFORE, WE BELIEVE THAT MEMBERS OF MOST
EAST EUROPEAN OR SOVIET MINORITY ORIENTED GROUPS
WOULD BE PERMITTED TO ENTER THE COUNTRY DURING THE CSCE
MEETING UNDER 90-DAY TOURIST VISAS. IN FACT IT WOULD
NOT BE EASY FOR YUGOSLAVS TO KEEP THEM OUT EVEN IF GOY CHOSE
TO GIVEN RATHER OPEN BORDERS AND DIFFICULTY OF IDENTIFYING
WHO BELONGS TO WHAT GROUP. DEFINITE EXCEPTIONS WOULD BE
CERTAIN SOUTH SLAV EMIGREE GROUPS CONSIDERED HOSTILE TO THE
GOY. PROBABLE EXCEPTIONS WOULD BE GROUPS OF OTHER ETHNIC
EXTRACT CONSIDERED FASCIST-ORIENTED; POSSIBLE EXCEPTIONS
WOULD BE GROUPS THOUGHT TO BE RAPIDLY ANTI-COMMUNIST.
(EMBASSY LIKE CONGEN ZAGREB HAS RECENTLY RECEIVED
SEVERAL STATEMENTS FROM EMIGRE GROUPS IN CANADA, AUSTRALIA
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AND GREAT BRITAIN PROTESTING VIOLATIONS OF RIGHTS OF CROATIAN
PEOPLE SUPPOSEDLY GUARANTEED BY CSCE.)

2. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GOY DOES NOT CONSIDER DEMONSTRAT-
ING OR LITERATURE-DISTRIBUTING AS LEGITIMATE TOURIST
ENDEAVORS. AS A MATTER OF PRACTICE, GOY DOES NOT PERMIT
DEMONSTRATIONS OF ANY VARIETY UNLESS THEY ARE GOVERNMENT-

INSPIRED OR SANCTIONED. (PALESTINIANS WERE PERMITTED BRIEFLY TO DEMONSTRATE NEAR THE SYRIAN EMBASSY AT LEAST ONCE LAST YEAR DURING SYRIA'S INTERVENTION IN LEBANON, WHICH YUGOSLAVIA OPPOSED.) NORDOES THE GOY ALLOW THE UNAUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE IN PUBLIC. AT THE LOWEST LEVEL OF POTENTIAL PENALTIES, YUGOSLAV LEGAL STATUTES CONTAIN A HOST OF MISDEMEANOR OFFENSES WHICH POLICE COULD USE EITHER TO INCARCERATE THE DEMONSTRATORS OR LITERATURE DISTRIBUTORS OR THROW THEM OUT OF THE COUNTRY--LATTER BEING THE MOST LIKELY TREATMENT. A MORE SERIOUS CHARGE WHICH YUGOSLAV LAW CONTAINS PROVISION FOR IS LIBELOUS OR SLANDEROUS DEFAMING OF NATIONS WITH WHICH YUGOSLAVIA ENJOYS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

3. BECAUSE OF THE PUBLICITY WHICH WOULD BE ATTENDANT TO ANY DISTURBANCES, THE GOY MAY (AND WE USE THE TERM ADVISEDLY) "OVERLOOK" MINOR INCIDENTS. WE THINK THIS UNLIKELY, HOWEVER, AND WE ASSUME THE DEPARTMENT WOULD NOT SUGGEST THIS AS A POSSIBILITY TO ANYONE INQUIRING.

4. FINALLY WE DO NOT BELIEVE WE SHOULD DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT WITH THE YUGOSLAVS PRIOR TO THE BELGRADE MEETING. THEIR RESPONSE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE THE LEGAL ONE AND WE THEN WOULD HAVE PLACED OURSELVES IN A POSITION TO BE FORCED TO DISCOURAGE SUCH GROUPS FROM COMING HERE. THE YUGOSLAVS WOULD ALSO CONSIDER OUR INTEREST TO BE OF A "PROVOCATIVE" NATURE AND MIGHT GO SO FAR AS TO ACCUSE THE US OF HAVING INSPIRED ANY INCIDENTS WHICH MIGHT TAKE PLACE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, VISITS, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS, MEETINGS, COLLECTIVE SECURITY AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BELGRA03695
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770202-0277
Format: TEL
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770689/aaaaczqy.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0c8eb784-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 123794
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2269442
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE VISITS TO BELGRADE OF PRIVATE GROUPS DURING CSCE MEETINGS.
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, YO, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0c8eb784-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009